

Message

From: O'Brien, Elisabeth (DPH) [/O=COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS/OU=DPH/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=EOBRIEN]
Sent: 10/12/2005 1:10:00 PM
To: Farak, Sonja (DPH) [/O=COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS/OU=DPH/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SFARAK]
Subject: RE: update

Hey, nothing wrong with catching a break and getting out of court, at least that's what I say! What an idiot for becoming a fugitive...he better have gone somewhere good and far. I know the guy from Brockton who comes in here was having to go to court too on that case. Oh well, I have had to do a ton of IR's on Brockton cases lately so I'm sure it's just a matter of time before they catch up to me. I have learned from an Asst. U.S. Atty Glenn MacKinlay about Project Safe Neighborhoods where 11 cities are trying to get their crack cases in federal court where the penalties are stiffer. I'm a proponent of knowing ahead of time which cases are going so that they don't have to be resubmitted. Brockton is good at indicating which ones are likely to go....the other cities are Boston, Fall River New Bedford, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn as well as Worcester, Springfield, Chicopee and Holyoke.

The party was the usual crazy, can't believe I work in such a place, event. We had A&N pizza. The big change since you left is the lab mascot. We have a screaming rubber chicken that hangs by its neck in the instrument room that we squeeze when we make our way down to the Swamp. It alerts all the swamp boys to stop their inappropriate behavior. What I find more entertaining is that the cops can hear it out in the hall.....

I'm working on a new newsletter (it has been a while) and I had a question for Cam. I e-mailed him yesterday but I don't know if he was in. Maybe he will be in Boston today. By the way, I notice you have real e-mail now!

This is a bad week to be a dog...all this rain. By the way Annie is in Beijing this week. I hope she is safe. She gave me a good scare last year when she was in Phuket, Thailand last year during the Tsunami. She actually saw the second wave come in....the whole thing was unbelievable.

Catch you later, be glad you are not traveling to Boston in the rain this week!

Betsy

From: Farak, Sonja (DPH)
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2005 8:41 AM
To: O'Brien, Elisabeth (DPH)
Subject: update

Well, I still haven't had to testify :(I got a call from the US Atty yesterday at about 2pm letting me know that I didn't need to go to court today. I figured that the guy pleaded guilty to get a 2-year sentence instead of the mandatory 5 (it is some special plea allowed since he didn't have a long/horrible criminal record), but, alas, I was wrong. It seems that the defendant just didn't show up to court. Why plea when you are going to split the coup anyways ??? :) So, now he is a fugitive, but even if they catch him in the next day or so, I was told that the trial would be pushed back at least a couple months. So maybe I'll have to testify later, maybe not. And to think that I even spent a day in Worcester last week talking to the Atty for 2.5 hours (wasn't he nice to split the mileage and have me only drive to the Federal court there instead of going into Boston). Of course, he was 30 minutes late, but at least I didn't have to go back into work!

So, how did the party go last Wednesday? Any other parties scheduled yet? (Halloween/Thanksgiving/Christmas/New Year's/Super Bowl?) It was nice to occasionally have a party to break up some of the monotony- it would be harder here though with so few people. But at least we aren't too bogged down to take a short after-lunch 'siesta' :)

Nothing new and exciting as far as submissions go. We've had a few more mushrooms the last couple weeks or so, but our powder submissions have been down (well, at least that's my take on the sample load). Well, I suppose that I should start some work now. Talk to you later.

Sonja

-----Original Message-----

From: O'Brien, Elisabeth (DPH)
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2005 8:09 AM
To: Farak, Sonja (DPH)
Subject: RE: hi and a favor

Hi Sonja

Good to hear from you! We wish you were here...we are just over a month behind, not two weeks like you. However we have hired two new people and they are going through the arduous training process.

As far as your housing search goes I bet the housing market continues to soften a bit and this would be to your advantage. Hopefully our raises will come through soon too and that will get you more money....we are all looking forward to that!

Today we are having one of our infamous drug lab parties to celebrate the summer birthdays, should be a rude awakening for the new people!!!!!!

I have spent so much time on Brockton cases this year myself....had to go to federal court too, who is the US ATTY you are dealing with? I got off at South Station and walked up Atlantic Ave....I will fax you directions.

I will also see that you get your GC/MS stuff, I'll e-mail you later to tell you the status of that.

Annie says Hi!!!!!!!!!!!!

Stay tuned.....ELO

From: Farak, Sonja (DPH)
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2005 7:46 AM
To: Saunders, Della (DPH); O'Brien, Elisabeth (DPH)
Subject: hi and a favor

Hi Della and Betsy-

How's everything in Boston? Things are going well out here. We're less than 2 weeks behind, so there's really no pressure to pump out the samples. We've actually been getting a lot of mushrooms the last week or two (thanks mostly to Greenfield). And over the past 3 months or so I've personally gotten 5 PCP samples, so that's fairly uncommon.

Still looking to buy - nothing has jumped out at me yet, but I'm not in a huge rush yet. Actually, my current landlord is in the process of selling my apartment building, so I'm going to have to move once more before I buy, which I was hoping not to do as moving can be such a pain. Although I'm not being forced to leave, I'm concerned that the new owner will raise the rent since I know what how much the building was selling for and I know how much the 3 apartments are renting at. The only good part is that I can find somewhere with cheaper rent so that will help with down payments/closing costs/etc. My landlord also offered me a place in one of her other buildings (she's kind of been saving it for me since she put this building on the market - something about good tenants who pay their rent on time appeals to her :) I haven't gotten to see it yet, though I should this week. Tentative moving date is Nov. 1, but I think that the other apt. will be ready mid-month, and that she'll let me move my stuff slowly over the last couple weeks, which will make it easier for me.

Sox didn't look too good yesterday, but we've still got time. Patriots are a bigger concern to me - I think that Harrison's injury could be devastating. At least the rest of the AFC East isn't looking too sharp either. I heard a great football joke the other day: "The NFC North is out to prove it is worse than the NL West". Hey, Della, the Bears have a legitimate post-season chance!

OK, now the favor and the reason I wrote to both of you at once (in case someone is out/on vacation). I need a copy of some GC/MS data and was hoping that one of you would be so kind to find it and fax it to me. I have all my other notes/FTIR/etc. here, but all that MS data is in the ex-freezer. The lab number is [REDACTED], and it is from Brockton. If I remember the filing system correctly, the sequence is D031704.S and the data file is 333,947, with the previous cocaine STD being file 333,945. It is actually an ATF case and I need to go to federal court next Tuesday. (By the way, do either of you know a good route to the US District Court at 1 Courthouse Way in Boston?) The defense isn't really challenging my results, just not accepting the certificate, so I'm not too worried, though it was resubmitted for crack analysis, so I'll probably have to go into that. OK, that's it. If you can't do it, don't worry - I think that Cam is going to Boston tomorrow, so he might be able to get it. Thanks for everything.

Sonja
fax: 413-545-2608